

Hillsboro Park and Recreation Community Garden Program Policy Agreement

Please read each section carefully and initial to the right of each heading.

General Information *initial:

- You must be a Hillsboro resident to hold a plot. We allow only one plot per household.
- Garden plot fees are non-refundable.
- Registration is not complete until you sign and return the **Community Garden Liability Waiver** and the **Community Garden Policy Agreement**. You must sign both waivers to be in good standing. Both must be signed no later than two weeks after the spring kick-off meeting. The garden policy waiver must be signed *in person* unless you receive permission from the garden coordinator to waive this requirement.

When you cease to be in good standing, you may lose your plot and/or lose the privilege to renew.

Garden Rules *initial:

- No commercial pesticides/herbicides. This is an organic garden. "Natural" or "organic" control methods may be employed but must have garden manager approval.
You will be immediately removed for unauthorized pesticide/herbicide use.
- We strongly encourage slow-release organic fertilizers.
- Gardeners are expected to attend the all-gardeners spring orientation meeting (generally in February or March)
- Everyone is expected to EITHER attend two work parties (spring kick-off and fall clean-up) OR attend one work party and serve on a crew (this requirement may be modified by your garden manager who will keep you informed).
- Each gardener must keep the pathways around his or her plot well-weeded.

*We will **generally** give two warnings when issues arise. After the second warning, you will no longer be in good standing and may lose your plot and/or lose the privilege to renew.*

Garbage/Trash (non-vegetative) Disposal *initial:

We have **no garbage disposal** service at the garden. There are **NO GARBAGE RECEPTACLES!** Do NOT DUMP GARBAGE anywhere in the garden. All disposal receptacles in the garden are for GARDEN DEBRIS DISPOSAL, **NOT GARBAGE**.

You will be immediately removed from your plot for dumping garbage. We do not issue warnings regarding dumping as this policy document serves as the warning.

Garden Waste & Debris Disposal (garden-generated weeds etc.) *initial:

- Dumping garden waste or debris anywhere outside of designated areas or containers will NOT be tolerated. This includes OVER-STUFFING yard debris containers and dumping garden debris in FRONT of compost bays (Sonrise). If the lid on the debris bin cannot close completely, it is over-stuffed.
- Do NOT USE compost bays when they are closed for maintenance.
- No home-generated waste is allowed in compost bays or waste bins.

You will be immediately removed from your plot for dumping/overstuffing.

Community Tool Shed *initial:

- Do NOT share tool shed lock combination with anyone not registered in the program.
- Tool Sheds must be kept locked.
- Do NOT store personal items in tool sheds.
- Do NOT abandon unwanted items in tool sheds.

Garden Plot Upkeep *initial:

- Respect neighbors– keep up with weeding!
- Don't plant tall things that will shade neighbors' plots (i.e. plant sunflowers in center), don't plant large plants near borders.
- NO spraying.
- Keep produce picked and avoid allowing produce to rot in plots.
- Composters within plots must be small, garden manager approval necessary.

*We **generally** give two warnings when issues arise. After the second warning, you will no longer be in good standing and may lose your plot or lose the privilege to renew.*

Water Use *initial:

- No automatic watering systems are allowed. Gardeners must be present to water.
- Water must be turned off after each use to save water.
- Please do not leave water keys on towers to avoid unauthorized water waste.

Concerns, Problems, and Dispute Resolution *initial:

- Please get to know your neighbors. When conflict arises, talk to each other.
- Please contact your garden manager regarding any issues you feel you cannot resolve.
- Please always feel free to contact the Community Garden Program Coordinator.

Communicating in a positive, constructive, problem-solving manner with your garden managers, your coordinator and your neighbors is necessary for our program to succeed. However, please be aware that the policies and penalties in this document will be enforced where appropriate and the final decision will be with the Community Garden Program Coordinator.

Signature

Date

Print Name

Garden & Plot Number